

## MR. MAPLE'S ROMANCE.

## THE BIG BRIDGE.

**It Comes Pretty Late in Life, but There's Lots of It.**

Until his wife died in May, 1888, Robert H. Maple of Neptune City, Monmouth County, N.J., did not seem to realize that there was any such thing as romance in this life, although he had never lived to be three score and three. He has found his romance since, and is now trying to rid himself of a large part of it through the Chancery Court of New Jersey. His wife died in May, and before a month had passed he became lonely, and inserted an advertisement in a paper in this city. It was as follows:

A rare chance for a lone woman. A man 60 years old, who has a good home, and will give it to a good widow, if she will be his companion for life; her age may be from 35 to 50 years. Address R. H. Maple, Park St. N.J.

This elicited a number of responses, and among them the one which struck his fancy was a modest missive couched in plain and unaffected terms from Florence D. Dodd of Brooklyn. She wrote that she was a widow of 45, and that her husband had been a member of Brooklyn to make certificates in duplicate under their hands, one of which shall be filed in the office of the Mayor of the city of New York, and the other in the office of the Mayor of the city of Brooklyn, certifying to the appointment of said trustees, and specifying the term for which each shall serve.

Maple took the letter under his wing, and June 2, 1888, was married by the Rev. William Lawrence of the little seaside settlement group Ocean Beach and Shad River inlet.

In October of the same year he decided his wife had no money, so he promised to take care of her in compliance with a promise made early in their acquaintance.

The expenses of the property were all his.

He paid the taxes, and the insurance.

He paid the doctor bills, and so on.

He paid the lawyer bills, and so on.

He paid the taxes, and so on.

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